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The FREEMASON AND FEZ.

IN THE INTEREST OF MASONRY, THE MYSTIC SHRINE AND THE ORDER OF ISIS.

JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor and Publisher.

VOLUME VIII. CEDAR RAPIDS. FEBRUARY, 1900. MARION, IOWA. No. 2.

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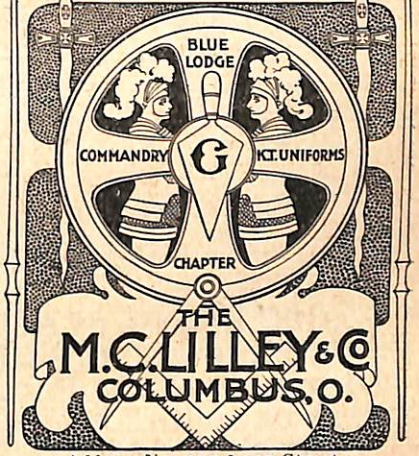

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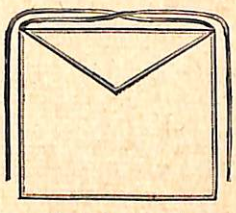

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BROTHERLY LOVE.

In the early part of the late civil war a small stream divided the hostile forces. A beautiful town lay on the right bank of the river, which, with its quaint gables and moss-covered roofs, reminded one of the ancient towns of old England during the reign of "Virgin Bess." A bridge had once connected the town with the left bank, along which ran a road through luxuriant fields and by spacious mountains to a prominent roadstead on the coast; but the exigencies of war had caused Confederates to destroy the end of the bridge nearest the town, and to post a sentry commanding a full view of the remainder. On the end where it had been broken the Federals had built a breastwork with barrels filled with sand, behind which a sentinel paced his weary rounds. The town had been alternately occupied by Confederates and Federals. But few of the inhabitants remained. Among these was an old man, bed ridden and decrepid with old age, and partly palalyzed in limb and mind, but who, having positively refused to be taken from the home of his fathers and youth, had been left to the care of his body servant and one or two females. During the occupation of the town by the Federals the old man had been visited and become an object of tender care to a number of Masons, and it was a source of pleasure to them to see him recognize the brotherhood. The windows that looked out upon the streets were dim, the grasshopper had become a burden, desire had nearly failed, the silver cord was losing its strength, and the golden bowl well-nigh broken; but the aged man still remembered, and his eyes brightened as he responded to the hidden language of the craft.

After the evacuation of the town by the Federals the brethren often talked of their aged brother, and on more than one occasion several of them crossed the river at night, carrying with them such articles of food as they thought would be acceptable, and tried to persuade the old man to go within the Union lines, but he would not consent.

It was midnight. With the exception of the guard, the Federal army lay wrapped in slumber; when suddenly the sharp crack of a rifle was heard; then a volley of musketry, followed by the beating of a long roll, and in a short time the whole army was aroused and under arms. The heavens now began to have a lurid glare, which was explained when the word was passed along the line, "The Johnnies have fired the town." In the midst of the excitement the Masons thought of their aged brother, but the laws of war forbade them leaving their regiments, except one young officer, who, being detached from his regiment, had for the night no special duty to restrain him. He communicated this fact to a few of his brothers, with his determination to cross the river and ascertain the fate of the old man. He started, reached the bridge, and there found the adjutant of the regiment which was doing picket duty, told him of his errand, and asked his assistance. The adjutant, though not a Mason, had often heard of the fidelity of Masons to one another. He admired the conduct of the young man, but warned him of the risks he would incur of being either captured or shot; but at last gave his assistance by procuring a boat, giving orders to the sentinel not to fire on the

occupant, and said he would remain on the bridge till daylight to watch for his return.

The Federal crossed the river, but was met at the shore by six rifles pointed at his breast, with the demands, "Who are you? What is your business?" "Take me to your commanding officer as quick as possible," was his reply. It was done; and as the two met they instantly recognized each other as former friends, and the gray and blue joined hands in friendship's clasp. In a few words the Federal told his errand, when the Confederate replied, "Good God! Uncle Joe here? We thought he was in Richmond. Have him, to be sure; and may God bless you for your kind deed."

He called a guard, saying to them, "Go with this officer; assist him, and see him safe across the river; and if but one hair of his head is harmed I shall hold you responsible for it." The old man was found just in time, as the adjacent buildings were in flames, but his servants had already got him out on a wheelbarrow preparatory to taking him to a place of safety. They carried him to the river, placed him in a boat, and were soon on the Union side; where, by the aid of the adjutant, an ambulance was procured, and "Uncle Joe" was once more among his Masonic brothers, who cared for him until he was summoned to the Grand Lodge on high.—*Pomeroy's Democrat.*

THE FRATERNAL TIE.

Riding on a train the other day, "we fell in with a wayfaring man" who had just returned from the Klondyke region. His description of the perils of the frigid country brought out this question, "Will you tell me how strong the fraternal ties are in the rush for gold?" "Well," said he, "I saw one pitiful case that excited my sympathy and anger at the same time. A man fell dead—from cold—and as I came opposite the body 'on the brow of a hill,' dragging my load, I halted and discovered an emblem on his watch chain bearing a pair of eagles, two others came up who had on similar marks to some on the emblem. I said, 'what shall we do?' None of us were warm—all rushing for the fields—and to my disgust both the dead man's *brothers* resumed their journey and left the unburied body. I could not leave it thus. I besought others to aid me to render what was due to the dead, but I stood alone until warned by the awful drowiness that I too would soon fall beside the corpse, moved on just as the Canadian mounted police came up and started to bury the remains." Our interest was not singular, so another question was asked. "Did you find any other Order whose fraternal ties were any stronger?" "Not one; it was not from this class that the milk of human kindness flowed. But I wish to assure you that I do not regard these experiences as criterions by which to judge all, for the great mass of the Orders are noble kindly 'brothers and fellows.'" It is no part of this item to relate all that this traveler said, but to point this moral:—"No man should ever forget his humanity in the hour of another's need, and no brother should ever sink his obligation from sight in his hunger for gold." We are not surprised at this cruel picture of heartlessness—the horde who trample these "solemn and weighty obligations" under foot have not all started to the point of darkness—the north—too many yet remain scattered throughout the several avenues of life's temple, ready not only to neglect the dying and dead, but like their predecessors, even prepared to resort to violence to extort the secrets of the Fraternities for selfish uses. Alas that this is true. Blessed be the God of truth for some exceptions.

Among the Lodges.

IN IOWA.

Down at Corydon they have a live lodge doing good work.

Trojan No. 548, Marion, continues her usual fresh and vigorous life under W. M. Robinson.

Grand Secretary Parvin is recovering from his injury; Brother G. W. Bever is able to walk some.

A short visit with P. D. G. M. Dr. L. J. Baker, Ottumwa, was enjoyed lately. Masonry is active and earnest there.

Hillsboro has a young and vigorous Lodge (541), with whose members it was our privilege to be on January 19th for a public address. They are doing good work. The Christian Church was crowded and the interest manifest at the public meeting.

Among the What Cheer Brothers we discovered that they are still progressing and all alive. They have a large and well furnished hall to work in.

The Brothers at Maquoketa are trying to get work out of the Quarries, and after some rubbish is cleaned away they will find it all right.

Bro. B. C. Busby of Marion, has passed through a long siege of rheumatism.

Those who attended the Washington, D. C., Centennial were treated to the spectacle of the veto of the plug hat as a required part of the procession. The westerners are short on plug hats—but long on Masonic activity.

The net increase in membership among the American Lodges for 1899, was 14,052.

Over in Peoria they have become jubilant over the fact that they have the Grand Master, Grand Commander and Grand Royal Arch Captain in their town.

The "47th Problem" of Chicago seems to wield more than a "stuffed club"—more like a settling maul—against certain abuses that have "crept in unawares," to trouble the Craft. Great service, poor pay.

Texas imposes a penalty upon a suspended Mason who visits within or without the jurisdiction "while under such suspension."

Grand Secretary Parvin was painfully injured by a fall down stairs, at Des Moines, some six weeks ago, and was compelled to go back to using a crutch which he had used 63 years ago. The sprained ankle is about well now, though as he says—"a man with less energy would have been dead long ago."

Past Grand Commander Geo. W. Bever, is gradually recovering from his long illness and contemplates a sojourn in a warmer climate for awhile. He is too good a man to leave us for years to come.

Among the positions assumed against recognizing the "Grand Dieta" of Mexico, is the one assumed by Grand Secretary Vincil, of Missouri—"since the Grand Dieta is a Grand Lodge over Grand Lodges, its recognition would be an argument for the establishment of a General Grand Lodge in the United States."

Some correspondents whose reports we read in the proceedings received would hardly do to be read in public—such fierce denunciation among "brothers and fellows" is most unmasonic and uncalled for. This class is growing less—and please God, may they cease from off the Masonic earth.

North Dakota's G. M. waives jurisdiction on all E. A.'s and F. C.'s made, (no work done in the third), in the Military Lodge attached to the 1st regiment North Dakota volunteers while in Manilla. Now for the criticisms.

The new Masonic Temple, Boston, (old one burned in 1895) was dedicated Dec. 27, 1899, amid ceremony and display.

Maine has established relations with the Grand Orient of Belgium.

The old country is getting into the "clandestine" business some more by invading London. The G. O. of France is posted this time.

Brother Stephen Berry gives the statistics of Masons in the world in 1900, as follows:

	No. Lodges.	No. Members.
General,	5,914	301,953
British America,	605	37,329
United States,	11,596	796,520
Total,	18,115	1,135,807

This does not include the black Masons, he says, of whom there are about 23,000. North America has five-eighths of all the Masons in the world.

The Grand Lodge of Texas stands third on the list in the United States as to number of constituent lodges, 626, while New York has 743 and Illinois 722.

In 1784 there were two Grand Lodges in Massachusetts—St. John's Grand Lodge, with thirty lodges, and Massachusetts Grand Lodge, with twenty lodges.

THE DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

Conducted by G. B. Van Saun, G. C.

DISTRICT NO. 13.

Carroll, Feb. 12, 13, 14, 1900.
Audubon, Feb. 15, 16, 17, 1900.
Lodges No. 197 201 244 264 321 342 349 369 392 402 422 441 444 450 451 476 507 543.

DISTRICT NO. 14.

Missouri Valley, Feb. 19, 20, 21, 1900.
Atlantic, Feb. 22, 23, 24, 1900.
Lodges No. 58 71 126 232 234 259 271 297 335 371 380 382 400 401 415 420 423 430 449 490 492 544 559

DISTRICT NO. 15.

Hedrick, Feb. 26, 27, 28, 1900.
Knoxville, March 1, 2, 3, 1900.
Lodges No. 18 38 52 55 61 74 106 124 146 163 182 185 227 229 230 236 242 260 277 311 336 353 388 397 442 485 491 512 524 530.

DISTRICT NO. 16.

Marengo, March 8, 9, 10, 1900.
Muscatine, March 12, 13, 14, 1900.
Lodges No. 2 4 11 24 30 95 96 114 122 149 167 168 188 231 238 287 290 381 391 445 479 516 535 549.

DISTRICT NO. 17.

Winfield, March 15, 16, 17, 1900.
Fort Madison, March 19, 20, 21, 1900.
Lodges No. 1 5 8 12 13 17 26 27 28 29 45 48 68 107 120 136 207 226 235 245 318 365 440 541 545.

BRO. PLUMMER NAME THE LODGE.

A poor excuse sometimes is better than none. We visited a lodge recently where a visitor who looked a little seedy, presented himself for examination. His papers were all right, and after exhausting a series of inquiries of whys and wherefores, he was asked if he had applied to any other Lodge, to which he replied he had and had been refused an examination. He was then told that for that reason he would have to return to the first Lodge to secure an examination, and the visitor was entirely ignored thereafter in that Lodge's ante-room. There are all descriptions of Masons, as we know, for we examined this brother for our own satifaction, and found him a Mason, though he was not so "bright" as the well dressed brother who treated him with contumely. With some Lodges our personal examination and avouchment is good when the examination is authorized by the Master during the session.—*Trestle Board.*

HERE'S A SOLVENT.

Much interest was taken at the 101st Anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, held at the Dome, Brighton, in a statement by Mirza Khan, Secretary of State for Afghanistan. He mentioned that the Amir had appealed to his officers of State to say whether there there was any organization under which Christianity and Mahammadanism could be united. They had been unable to answer. Since the speaker's visit to England, he had, however, become satisfied that a means—indeed, the only means—by which this could be done was by the noble institution of Freemasonry. He hoped soon to be instructed, and in the near future to be the first to introduce Freemasonry into Afghanistan. Mirza Khan, although not yet initiated as a Mason, has shown his interest in the charities of the craft by giving a donation to the funds of the institution.—*Indian Masonic Review.*

SPEAKER BRO. HENDERSON.

Congressman David Bremner Henderson, of Iowa, lost a leg in the civil war. When he applied for membership in a Masonic lodge a number of years ago there was considerable discussion of his physical qualifications, and the Grand Master finally issued a special dispensation permitting the lodge to make him a Mason. The members of that lodge are now proud of the fact that the brother who would have been ruled out by strict constructionists is Speaker of the National House of Representatives. Bro. Henderson wears an artificial leg.—*Masonic Standard.*

ON COMMISSION.

We noticed the other day the by-laws of a lodge where the Secretary's compensation was a percentage of all the dues collected. May this not be the panacea for non-affiliation? Is there any plan better calculated to ensure the prompt collection of dues? Would there be so many members lost by suspension if the dues were collected promptly? Turning to their last return, we find no suspensions and 242 members. —*Token.*

The Royal Arch.

At Corydon three were exalted in the Royal Arch degree January 12th.

Maquoketa retains her ancient prestege and many of the companions we knew in former days are still there.

What Cheer companions are all in good cheer. Edmund Jackson was a visitor at the time we were there.

The Eastern Star.

The Chapters of Cedar Rapids and Marion mingled socially on Jan. 23d, at a reception tendered Mrs. Woods, P. G. M.

By the time of the next Grand Chapter at Des Moines there should be the largest increase in membership and Chapters of any year since the first.

We owe the Worthy Matron of What Cheer a vote of thanks for reviving acquaintance with us on our recent visit. The Chapter appreciates Sister Pratt and re-elected her for 1900.

The Grand Matron and her deputies met in Des Moines, January 12th, for conference.

The five points of sisterhood—the labyrinth of Masonic home life are no less beautiful and useful than the five points of fellowship among brothers and fellows.

The Order has thirty-three chapters in Chicago and the same number in New York City.

Harmony Chapter No. 25, Council Bluffs, Iowa, is having some of the good old times of yore. On Thursday evening the officers (elective) entertained at progressive high five, a musical programme and refreshments followed.

The officers of Harmony Chapter for the ensuing year are:

Mrs. Chas. E. Walters, W. M.
Mr. M. Maynard, W. P.
Mrs. L. M. Shubert, A. M.
Mrs. P. H. Wind, Treasurer.
Mrs. C. E. Tucker, Secretary.
Miss Jennie Pile, Cond.
Miss Emma Potter, A.
Mrs. Geo. Rudio, Marshal.
Mrs. G. H. Jackson, Chaplain.

Scottish Rite.

Henry L. Palmer, Sov. Gr. Commander of the N. M. J., was 80 years old Oct. 18th last, the 33's of Milwaukee celebrated the occasion by giving him a loving cup.—*Token.*

The "Ancient and Accepted Rite" of Ireland is peculiarly circumstanced and quite different to elsewhere, the thirteen Rose Croix Chapters being under a separate and distinct Grand Chapter, the Supreme Council, thirty-third degree, having charge of the degrees from the nineteenth to the thirty-third degree of which the twenty-eighth is prominently supported, as well as the thirtieth to the thirty-third degree, inclusive. Freemasonry in Ireland is undoubtedly both popular and rigidly select, especially in the "higher degrees.'

De Molay Consistory and co-ordinate bodies, of Clinton, Iowa, will hold their thirty-first annual reunion on February 13, 14, 15 and 16, 1900. Banquet and social Friday evening, 16th.

The "Masonic Constellation," St. Louis, says: "Grand Commander Caswell, 33° G. M. J., calls attention to the fact that in the Southern Jurisdiction, A. A. S. R., there are 340,000 Master Masons and but 10,000 Perfect Elus. Just let the Rite get down off its high horse in fees and dues and see the result." We have no doubt that much might be said on both sides of this question. The degrees at the present cost in one jurisdiction are certainly disproportioned to the other, and the fact that even our diplomas are extra and come high, leads us to observe that we are with the "Constellation."

Zarephath Consistory of Davenport, Iowa, holds a convention during February, 1900, but their advance circular gives no date.

If Secretaries will send us word in time we will be glad to notice reunions to be held.

The 19th special reunion of Des Moines Consistory was held January 23–26, 1900, and a good class is reported.

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Published Monthly

JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, K. T., 32°,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.
P. O. Drawer E, Marion, Iowa, for all business and exchanges.

Entered in the postoffice at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as second class mail matter.

TERMS:—$1.00 per year. Single copies 10 cents. Subscribers failing to receive any number will please notify us by postal card at once.
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Drawer E, Marion, Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS. FEB. 1900. MARION, IOWA.

GRAND GATHERINGS.

GRAND LODGES MEET.
Cedar Rapids, June 5, 1900.

THOS. LAMBERT....Sabula.....GRAND MASTER
T. S. Parvin.....Cedar Rapids.....Grand Secretary

CONVOCATIONS, R. A. M.
Iowa, Grand, Des Moines, October 16, 1900.
B. F. PARKER...Dubuque.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Secretary

CONCLAVES K. T.
Grand Encampment, Louisville, Ky., Aug. 27, 1901.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July 10, 1900.
J. H. PETTIBONE...Burlington..GRAND COMMANDER
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Recorder

GRAND CHAPTERS O. E. S.
General Grand (U. S.,) Sept., 1900, Cincinnati.
Iowa, Oct. —, 1900, Des Moines.
MRS. M. B. RATHBUN...Clinton.....GRAND MATRON
A. j. Small.....Des Moines.....Grand Patron
Mrs. Maria Jackson...Council Bluffs.....Grand Recorder

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.
Imperial Council, Washington, D. C., May 22, 1900.
JOHN H. ATWOOD, Leavenworth, Kan IMP. POTENTATE
Ben. W. Rowell.....Boston, Mass.....Recorder

El-Kahir Temple, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
F. O. EVANS.....Des Moines.2.....POTENTATE
John Westley Geiger.....Marion.....Recorder

No professional man can succeed in this day and age who does dot read books and periodicals relating to his profession. No Mason can properly instruct or become proficient in the art who does not read Masonic literature or pose as oracles of Masonic lore and leaders of the Craft. The day of the leader who does not read is about passed.

We've resumed labor.

Carrying a cane, yet no dude.

Many thanks for the letters of sympathy we've had!

More thanks for the discovery that many of our brothers never knew that we were laid up. Thank God, anyway.

Here's where letters of congratulation will count—enclose half a dollar, and you shall keep posted on Masonic and Shrine matters for a year.

We hope Bro. Bunn F. Price will not resent the liberty our compositor took with his name. Think of calling him "Burr!"

Bro. Charles Mackenzee of Des Moines, expresses his willingness to fill engagements for addresses on Masonic occasions, and he will please and profit all who hear him.

A PUBLIC-SPIRITED MASON.

The Hon. Hugh McCurdy, of Corunna, Mich., and Past Grand Master of Knights Templar of the United States, has presented to the city of Corunna a park for the city's use comprising thirty-four acres of land situated in the heart of the city. The park has been improved and is now available for use by the citizens of Corunna. The Hon. Hugh McCurdy is one of the most distinguished of the public-minded citizens of the state of Michigan, and has occupied public office and bears the title of judge. He takes great pride in his home city. The park was given to the city free of all incumbrances, even the taxes for 1899 having been paid.—*Unknown.*

It is not the knowledge of lodge room form that distinguishes the true Mason so much as his good deeds in his associations with his fellowmen. A true Mason is a true man and is distinguishable as much outside the official confines as within. The mere lodge-room Mason is a blot upon the fraternity, for his constant attendance at the meetings is sure to be known to his friends and acquaintances, and, when they see that his life has no higher aims than other men, they are not slow to conclude that the practical education of the order is not what they had always believed.—*Boston Ideas.*

The Mystic Shrine.

AMONG THE TEMPLES.

The Imperial Potentate desires as many of the Imperial representatives as can do so to be in Washington a day ahead of the session of the Council, (which means to arrive in Washington May 21st), next May.

The following notices of meetings reached us since our last issue: For Jan. 8, El Jebel; 17th, Moolish and Islam; 18th, Hella; 24th, Rajab; 25th, Acca; 26th, Zuhrah (coon hunt), Murat (reception and ball), Medinah; 29th, Mecca; 31st, Kismet; Feb. 2nd, Ben Hur; 7th, Lu Lu.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL CLATTER.

Most of the notices now have big plans on foot for the trip to Washington. Our columns will have more to say about this great gathering from this time on.

The annual session of Cypress Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of Albany, N. Y., was held at Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Dec. 29, 1899, and the officers for the ensuing year were elected and the order of nobility conferred upon several candidates.

The Divan for 1900 is as follows:
Ill. Potentate, Henry W. Foreman.
Ill. Chief Rabban, J. D. Ireland.
Ill. Asst. Rabban, G. C. Baker.
Ill. High Priest and P., W. H. Butler.
Ill. Oriental Guide, J. B. Wooley.
Ill. Treasurer, J. B. McEwan.
Ill. Recorder, Wm. E. Fitch.
Representatives to Imperial Council:
Past Potentate, Thos. J. Bishop,
Past Potentate, Thos. H. Dumary,
Ill. Potentate, Henry W. Foreman.

The Imperial Potentate visited the far east late in December.

P. I. P., A. B. McGaffey, visited Tripoli, Milwaukee, in November. Ten Sheiks from Chicago guarded him from Schlitz.

The Potentate of El-Kahir, Noble F. O. Evans of Des Moines. has been over in Indiana for a month past.

Owing to lateness and the slowness of our convalescence from a long illness, the Short History of the Mystic Shrine may be omitted this month.

We wish to assure our Noble Friends (and Masonic brothers of all degree) that we are not in pecuniary need. Charity we do not accept. But if anybody wants to subscribe for this paper it will aid us and cost them but 50 cents.

Noble Thomas J. Bishop is one of our kind of people—he sends us frequently, appreciable items of information—and he's all right.

MISSING NOBLES.

Who knows the address of Geo. E. Smith, last known address, Keithsburg, Ill.

The same inquiry as to B. L. Burgess, last address, Seneca, Kan.

The Council.

There is considerable of opposition to joining the G. G. Council over in Illinois.

We've no news from the Councils in Iowa (all U. D.) but presume that Companion Cleveland is moving right along.

In the Commanderies

The fellow who the "Illinois Freemason" says wanted to form the Knights Templar first in Chicago has his counterpart in Iowa—likely neither of them will ever "advance."

As is ever so, we enjoyed a short visit with Sir E. C., Rinaldo L. Tilton, of Ottumwa, recently. He is a valiant and courteous Knight. He was a welcome caller at our home since.

The courteous greeting of our Fratres are as ointment for wounds and as new wine to the blood, and we never forget.

E. Sir Thos. E. Green, D. D., Grand Prelate of Iowa, is much in demand for his "Templar Knights" lecture this winter.

Fraternities.

The editor of this journal is looking for information which will be used for the common good in this department. Address, Drawer E, Marion Iowa.

SECRECY AND FRATERNITY.

A secret society without fraternity, is a farce. A fraternity that professes to impart certain friendly signs and brotherly

grips to its members, and sells them a certificate of life insurance, without throwing around it the protecting arms of the Order in times of unavoidable disability, or indigence, don't deserve to live. All the assumptions of a secret society to be heir to an hoary lineage, does not warrant the impertinence of its claim if the highest motive behind its seclusion is not the practice of fraternity. The time will come when men will repudiate the self-seeking character of some men and Orders where the blatant pretensions to secret fraternity are all the evidences that any such thing exists. What are words without acts? "Deeds, not years," is what is needed. The mercenary Orders will go down as they came up through the avidity of their founders. Secrecy in its place is all right; but where its outward announcement is the good of its votaries its practioe must correspond with its preaching or down will come the whole fabric.

"The Knights of Kadosh," an insurance Order, lately organized in Iowa, is not a Scottish Rite Masonic body which is known as "Knights Kadosh"—this is not said against the one, but to designate it from the other.

The Endowment Rank, Knights of Pythias, "the insurance department of the Knights of Pythias," is writing "fixed payment" indemnity on a fraternal basis. They have a surplus of $500,000.00.

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One practice of our life in buying insurance has been, that when ANY LINE AGENT railed against a Fraternal Order selling indemnity, we examined its record—and if he lied—we bought if we needed it. Any man can follow this rule and not go far wrong. This is not in the interest of *cheapness* but *fairness*.

This month's tale of woe comes from Illinois where the Independent Order of Foresters of Illinois are in the hands of a receiver. Next.

BOOK TABLE.

From Bro. T. J. Bishop we have the "Masonic Centennial Memorial Service on the Life and Character of W.·. George Washington," as rendered in Emmanuel Baptist Church, Albany, N. Y., Dec. 31, 1899.

A DELIGHTFUL TRIP.

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